UPDATE

12-16

Isaac to urge mayors to stay

Boycott imperils June meeting

By **Louis Aguilar**/Gazette Telegraph

Colorado Springs Mayor Robert Isaac meets with leaders of the U.S. Conference of Mayors on Thursday in Washington, D.C., in hopes of halting the growing number of big-city mayors who say they will boycott the 1993 convention here because of Amendment 2.

Isaac couldn't be reached for comment Tuesday, and conference officials in Washington, D.C., downplayed the possibility the prestigious convention will be moved out of Colorado Springs.

"It is much too premature to say what will happen," said Thomas Cochran, the conference's executive director. "We are aware some mayors have stated their opinion about not going to Colorado, but I wouldn't describe that as pressure to move the conference to another site."

But clearly there is movement behind the scenes indicating the group is having second thoughts about meeting in Colorado Springs.

William Althaus, mayor of York, Pa., and president of the mayors group, said he has asked lawyers to determine whether the group can withdraw from its contract with a Colorado Springs hotel — reportedly The Broadmoor — scheduled to host the event.

The dispute is over the Nov. 3 passage of Amendment 2. The voter-approved amendment prohibits laws that protect gays, lesbians and bisexuals from discrimination based on their sexual orientation.

The city councils of five major cities — New York, Atlanta, Philadelphia, Boston and Seattle — have passed measures condemning the amendment and in various ways have banned spending public money in Colorado. The Los Angeles council will consider doing the same today. The Los Angeles council also is expected to vote on whether to ban city-paid travel to Colorado. Further, it will discuss whether to lure the conference of mayors away from Colorado Springs to Los Angeles. New York City is also asking that the conference be moved — but to the Big Apple.

The gathering is slated for June and will bring up to 1,500 mayors and their staffs to the Pikes Peak region for six days. It usually draws the nation's most powerful mayors, and it's a big publicity event for the city hosting it. New York Mayor

See **AMENDMENT 2**/B6

■ Gay radio makes debut in Springs/**B2**

Entertainment Editor

A Manitou Springs radio station has begun airing a blend of progressive music and call-in talk targeting an unusual market: the gay community.

On Saturday, KXRE (1490 AM) began carrying 24-hour-a-day satellite feeds from KGAY, a Denver station operated by gay and lesbian broadcasters.

Colorado Springs has been dubbed the "epicenter of hate" by some gay rights activists since voters here led the charge in November for passage of Amendment 2. The amendment, written by a Colorado Springs-based group, prohibits laws protecting gays from discrimination based on sexual orientation.

But KXRE owner Dave Drucker, an Evergreen attorney, said changing his station's format from Hispanic to gay pro-

sion, not a political statement.

"We looked at other satellite-delivered services like all-business news, but I heard KGAY, and the music is good, and it's a unique format. It separates us from the crowd."

Drucker calls the deal an affiliation agreement — KGAY is leasing all the available airtime on KXRE's frequency, as well as on a Drucker-owned AM station in Key West, Fla.

Drucker said he's aware of the potential for controversy in Colorado Springs, but adds, "I'd just as soon be politically neutral on these things."

KGAY president and general manager Clay Henderson does not share that neutrality. In fact, he revels in the fact that the first AM affiliate to pick up his station's satellite feed is in

"We take the position that martial law has been declared (in Colorado because of Amendment 2) against homosexuals, and the irony and poetic justice of the first broadcast station for KGAY being in Colorado Springs hasn't escaped us," Henderson said.

"We consider Colorado Springs enemy headquarters. I know that sounds a little dramatic, but that's the way we feel."

KGAY hit the air Nov. 28 and quickly caught the attention of listeners coast-to-coast. Initially, its broadcasts were transmitted via a satellite feed that could only be tuned in with a C-band home satellite dish. Colorado Springs listeners are the first anywhere who can hear KGAY without special equipment.

airtime lease arrangement will be the first of a network of more widely available cable and regular radio stations that will carry its signal.

KGAY programming is an eclectic mix of music and talk. One morning this week, the disc jockey played music by Bette Midler, Cowboy Junkies, Frank Sinatra and jazz group Spyro Gyra in succession. He also noted that he was getting comfortable with the studio equipment, saying, "Not bad for a drag queen, huh?"

The location of KGAY's Denver studio has not been publicized, to avoid possible anti-gay attacks. KXRE does not have a studio; the station is nothing more than a computer-run transmitter located in Manitou Springs.

800 take part in fireplace cleanup plan

Post offices ready for crunch

Mail-handling business doubles at holidays

Gazette Telegraph

CRIPPLE CREEK – Creek voters Tuesday a plan to borrow $500 buy 45 lots from May Hack.

By a vote of 88 to 4 turned down a plan t mayor $900,000 for a pasture just south of town's main street, B Avenue. The City Cou which already had $4 of the asking price, w build the city's new p fire headquarters the sell the land that now those facilities to gam terests.

Limited-stakes gam legal in Cripple Creek other historic mining Colorado, Black Hawk Central City.

Only 132 of the city registered voters turn possibly because of sn and cold weather thro the day.

"I more or less exp Hack said late Tuesda vote. "I knew it could ther way.

post-election party

d for high posts by
leaders of Great
news ran a short
ton's selection to

In his best-selling book, "Illiberal Education," Dinesh D'Souza quotes Shalala, chancellor of the University of Wisconsin, as subscribing to the full catechism of multiculturalism — summarized by this mea culpa/indictment: "I would plead guilty," Shalala said "to both racism and sexism. The university is institutionally racist. American society is racist and sexist. Covert racism is just as bad today as overt racism was 30 years ago. In the 1960s, we were frustrated about all this. But now, we are in a position to do something about it."

It's a curious fact about leftists that they will swallow flaming swords before acknowledging any progress in American society. How can an intelligent university chancellor actually claim that "covert racism" is worse today than Jim Crow was 30 years ago? Ask any black person (excluding leftist professors) who lived in the South during those years whether this society has improved or not. Does anyone doubt the answer? The notion that things have deteriorated for blacks is a concept so inane that only an intellectual could believe it.

Such is the mind-set of Bill Clinton's new secretary of health and human services. Forget "new Democrats." We are in for four long years of political correctness, quotas and big government. At the moment when we desperately need straight talk on social issues, personal responsibility in the realm of sexual conduct, self-control in the realm of crime, second thoughts on abortion and a return to standards of excellence in education, Bill Clinton has signalled moves in the

Amendment 2/

From B1

David Dinkins and Atlanta's Maynard Jackson have already stated they won't attend, and it's highly unlikely the mayors of Seattle and Boston would risk political backlash by coming to Colorado Springs. On Tuesday, Philadelphia Mayor Ed Rendell said he too will boycott the mayoral meeting.

The controversy mars a high point in Isaac's 13-plus years as mayor. He was the driving force in getting the conference here, mainly through his role as president of the group from 1990 to 1991. He is still a member of the 18-person executive committee, which is the group he will address Thursday in the nation's capital.

Besides the boycott threats, Isaac has another thorny problem to contend with: the association's own strong stance in support of gay rights. In 1984, the conference passed a resolution endorsing legal protection for gays. But, Cochran, its executive director, said the group's resolution may not conflict with Amendment 2.

"That was merely a resolution, and it didn't indicate the group should boycott a state," he said.

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In other Amendment 2 news, Colorado Springs lost two conventions Monday when the Colorado Library Association dropped plans to meet here in 1994 and 1995. The two conventions were expected to draw about 900 people, group officials said.

The association had signed contracts at the Antlers Doubletree Hotel and the Red Lion Hotel and Inn but intends to cancel them, said association spokesman John Sheridan.